

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicants' attorney during the interview held November 10, 2003, in the above-identified application. During the interview, Applicants' attorney explored with the Examiner appropriate wording for Claim 17 in order to overcome the formal ground of rejection thereof, as well as the presentation of an article claim. The discussion is summarized and expanded upon below.

All the rejections over prior art are respectfully traversed. All of the presently-pending claims now contain the limitations of Claim 17, not subject to these rejections. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that they be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Indeed, the rejection is now moot in view of the above-discussed amendment and the discussion during the above-referenced interview. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully call the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) **submitted herewith**. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the form PTO-1449, and include a copy thereof with the next Office communication.

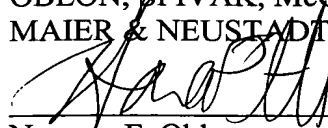
All of the presently pending claims in this application are now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to

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pass this application to issue. Should the Examiner disagree, she is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney in an attempt to resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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